



WWF

MAGAZINE

SUMMER

2015

Action

THE EXCLUSIVE MAGAZINE FOR WWF MEMBERS

#30



Climate witnesses

Find out how you're helping people and wildlife around the world to adapt to our changing planet

POACHER'S ENEMY

How Nepal's sniffer dogs are helping in the fight against the illegal wildlife trade



TOGETHER, WE DID IT

From collaring rare rhinos to protecting wild tigers – you made it happen



CELEBRATE EARTH HOUR 2015

Relive this inspirational worldwide event as thousands of you joined in and helped make it a night to remember!

CLIMATE CHANGE



This issue is all about climate change – how we're working to tackle it and how, with your support, we're helping people, wildlife and habitats adapt to its effects.

As global temperature rises, climate patterns change, causing more extreme and unpredictable weather around the globe. It also accelerates sea-level rise and causes drought, floods and storms. Some of the world's most vulnerable communities, endangered species and wildest ecosystems are struggling to cope.

That's why we're proud to be part of the Climate Coalition – more than 100 organisations dedicated to action on climate change. With your continued support, we're campaigning to protect the things we love from the impacts of climate change. Find out more on p17 and by visiting: wwf.org.uk/talkclimate

Find out more about this image, taken by the British Antarctic Survey in support of Earth Hour, at wwf.org.uk/lightsblog



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MEET THIS ISSUE'S CONTRIBUTORS



Mike Unwin

Mike has witnessed at first-hand the effects of climate change on wildlife and people from the Arctic to the Amazon. He is a wildlife and travel writer, and author of *Climate Change*.



Christy Williams

Christy helps our work to conserve Nepal's rhinos and elephants. He says: "If a poor country like Nepal can end rhino poaching, bigger, richer countries have no excuse."



Glyn Davies

Glyn, who leads our global programmes, is an expert on forest ecology and conservation. He says: "Safeguarding Borneo's forests saves carbon, species and indigenous people."

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We'd love to know what you think of this issue of *Action* magazine. By becoming an online 'Action Adviser', you'll join an exclusive group who are passionate about conservation and want to help us spread the word more effectively. It will take only five minutes of your time to review the issue. Please register at wwf.org.uk/actionadvisers

WWF IN ACTION

Our recent challenges and triumphs for wildlife and the environment



The feeding grounds of endangered green turtles are threatened by megaport expansions

© TROY MANNE

CAMPAIGN

The Great Barrier... dumping ground?

The Great Barrier Reef is a World Heritage icon visible from space and home to 1,500 species of fish and 400 species of coral. Six of the world's seven species of marine turtle are found in its waters.

The reef also has incredible economic value. It's worth almost US\$5.8bn per year to the Australian economy, it attracts more than two million tourists every year and it's the source of nearly 69,000 jobs.

But this vital marine habitat is in danger of becoming an

industrial highway. Increased coal and gas shipments through the reef, together with associated port expansions and the dredging and dumping of millions of cubic metres of dredge spoil in its waters, could irreversibly damage the already fragile ecosystem of the reef (see box, right).

This year, UNESCO highlighted in its state of conservation report that the condition of the Great Barrier Reef is of serious concern. Yet some port expansions are being fast-tracked. If we don't stop this

now, we risk losing one of the planet's great natural wonders.

For the past year, our friends at WWF-Australia have been campaigning to save the reef. To date, 11 international banks have backed away from financing coal terminals in the reef due to customer and shareholder concerns over environmental impacts. The Australian government is considering a ban on the dumping of dredge spoil in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, an area slightly smaller than the World Heritage Site. But this does not include key

areas where 80% of dumping has occurred.

To stop the destruction of the Great Barrier Reef, we urgently need a ban on dumping in all World Heritage waters. But we can't do this alone. Help us draw the line and save the reef today.

HOW YOU CAN HELP US SAVE THE REEF 

Tell governments and businesses to protect the reef. Add your name here: wwf.org.uk/sosreef or tweet about it with [#SOSreef](https://twitter.com/SOSreef)

GREAT BARRIER REEF IN DANGER

Without intervention, the reef could be turned into a dumping ground and shipping superhighway.



Dredging and dumping

This process is known to damage, destroy and smother coral and seagrass. When dumped at sea, dredge spoil can drift up to 80km, clouding the reef's pristine waters. Current plans could allow up to an estimated 39 million cubic metres of spoil to be dumped here.



Four mega-ports

Australia is fast-tracking plans to expand coal ports. By 2020, as many as 7,500 ships could pass through the reef each year. Shipping accidents and groundings can damage coral and pollute the water with oil. More traffic also heightens the risk of collisions with migrating whales.



Damage to wildlife

Dredging is planned in the feeding grounds of dugongs and marine turtles. The reef is also home to whales, sharks, thousands of fish species and corals. Hundreds of bird species live on its islands, too. Butterflies even migrate here.

© XANTHE RIVETT/CAENEC/WWF-AUSTRALIA

© WWF-AUSTRALIA

© TROY MANN

We're helping farmers to diversify the range of crops they grow to reduce the need for slash-and burn techniques and provide an income all year round.



© SIMON RAWLES/WWF-UK

IN PARTNERSHIP

Amazon success story

In 2009, we teamed up with Sky to launch Sky Rainforest Rescue. Since then, supporters have raised £4m, which Sky has doubled through its matched funding.

Thanks to this incredible boost, we've been able to help protect the jaguar's rainforest home and keep one billion trees standing in Acre, north-west Brazil. In six years, we've had a huge impact on the ground in Acre, helping local communities to develop alternative and sustainable ways of making a living from the forest without needing to cut down trees.

More than 1,500 small-scale farmers have been taught how to grow a wider variety of crops, without needing to cut down and burn the rainforest to create planting

areas. We've also trained local people to tap wild rubber trees for liquid latex without causing permanent damage, and helped to improve market prices for wild rubber, increasing their income. And in the UK, 75,000 schoolchildren participated in our *I Love Amazon Schools* programme.

Thanks to this support, Sky Rainforest Rescue has built lasting projects that can continue to help protect the rainforest – and the species and people who depend on it.




We worked with shoe brand Veja and actress Lily Cole to create a range of trainers which use wild rubber from Acre in their soles.

YOU CAN HELP

Find out how you're helping us protect the Amazon: wwf.org.uk/amazon

NEWS IN NUMBERS

1,215  2019

The number of rhinos killed in South Africa last year despite increased efforts to tackle the surge in rhino poaching. This is a shocking 9,300% increase in the number of rhinos poached here since 2007. With your help, we're able to step up our efforts to protect rhinos around the world from poaching.

The year *Our Planet*, an exciting new WWF-backed series, will air. We've teamed up with Netflix and Silverback Films to create the eight-part natural history series, and over the coming years we'll be working together to showcase the planet's wildlife.



WWF-UK's chief executive David Nussbaum welcomed Deborah Meaden, HRH The Prince of Wales and Steve Backshall to our forest business forum

© RICHARD STONEHOUSE / WWF-UK



© GETTY

ACTION INTERVIEW

ANDY MURRAY

We're thrilled that tennis pro Andy Murray is championing our work to stop the illegal trade in wildlife. We asked him a few questions:

Why are you supporting our sniffer dog programme?

I was shocked to hear that the illegal wildlife trade is one of the biggest threats to the survival of some of the world's most threatened species. And it's increased massively over the past decade - as wealth in demand countries increases, so does the problem. The use of animal parts in traditional Chinese medicines and as luxury items has made the demand almost uncontrollable. If some animals continue to be poached at the current rate, we will soon, tragically, lose them forever.

How are you helping?

As I take part in the 2015 World Tennis Tour, I'll be promoting my support for WWF's work in tackling poaching. I'm highlighting a new sniffer dog programme in Nepal, in which two dogs (one named Murray after me, the other Sears after my wife) are being trained to sniff out guns and snares and the routes used by poachers.

What's it like to have a sniffer dog named after you?

I love dogs and it means a lot to have a dog with such an important role named after me. It's vital that we protect wild tigers, elephants and rhinos, and sniffer dogs not only help achieve this, they can also help bring poachers to justice.

How else can members help?

You can directly support Murray and the other sniffer dogs in Nepal by making an extra donation at wwf.org.uk/dogs. And never, ever buy anything made from illegal wildlife products.

Learn more about our sniffer dog programme in Nepal on page 22.

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Our forest campaign flourishes

IN FEBRUARY'S Action, we told you about our campaign to protect the world's forests.

At a special event organised by WWF last December, His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, wildlife presenter Steve Backshall and WWF ambassador Deborah Meaden met with some of Britain's biggest high-street names to discuss how they could help the global timber trade support thriving, healthy forests.

We want to ensure that, in the UK, we can be confident the products we buy aren't contributing to the destruction

of the forest homes of endangered species such as Amur tigers and Bornean orang-utans.

More than 30 influential businesses have publicly committed to source all their wood-based products legally and sustainably by 2020.

To help us get there, we need the EU to close the loopholes in its timber regulation, which still allow illegally-logged wood to be sold legally in the EU.

So in March, we invited MPs, leading businesses, local authorities and NGOs to an event in Parliament, where we spoke with them about

why it's so important to stop deforestation. But we can't save forests around the world without your help.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- You can add your name to our forests campaign: wwf.org.uk/actionforests
- Write a personal letter or email to your MP and tell them healthy forests matter to you.
- Look for the FSC or recycled logos on your wood purchases to ensure they're sustainable.
- Visit our [#saveforests](https://twitter.com/saveforests) festival tent at this year's Camp Bestival.

IN PARTNERSHIP

Celebrating 10 years working with M&S

Working together with others can have great results. That's why we're celebrating a decade of work with M&S on wide-ranging issues such as sustainable fishing, forestry, cotton production and water stewardship.

The world's oceans, seas and coasts are under severe strain from threats such as overfishing, climate change and pollution. We know that these challenges are too big to be tackled alone. That's why we've joined forces with the M&S Forever Fish campaign,

which has supported our marine conservation work across the globe, from coastal east Africa and the Coral Triangle to UK waters. Over the coming years, we'll continue to work with M&S to deliver our vital conservation programmes while promoting sustainable practice.

WATCH OUR VIDEO

Watch our 10th anniversary video, narrated by WWF ambassador Miranda Richardson: wwf.org.uk/marks





© WWF CHINA / YONG YANGE

GOOD NEWS

Big news for giant pandas

In your last issue of *Action*, you read that the latest giant panda survey was under way. The results are now in and it's great news for this iconic species.

According to China's Fourth National Giant Panda survey, there are at least 268 more pandas in the wild than there were a decade ago, with an estimated total wild panda population of 1,864, up from 1,596 in 2003. This means that the number of wild giant pandas

has risen by nearly 17% over the past decade.

The survey is conducted by the Chinese government about every 10 years and measures the size of the wild panda population, its distribution and the status of its habitat. The report also found that the giant panda's geographic range has increased by 11.8% since 2003.

It's a victory for conservation and proof that your help really makes a difference. These results are an encouraging

sign that the hard work of the Chinese government, local communities, nature reserve staff and WWF is paying off. But the threats to this charismatic species remain, so your ongoing support is vital. With your help, we can keep working hard to ensure panda populations thrive.

FIND OUT MORE Visit our interactive panda page: wwf.org.uk/pandainfo

38kg

Pandas need huge amounts of bamboo to thrive, as much as 38kg per day. This means they need a lot of forest. Habitat fragmentation due to road and hydropower construction is a problem.

1,864

giant pandas now live in the wild. Just over half of all panda habitat is protected



67

nature reserves protect 66.8% of the total wild population

NEWS IN BRIEF



© NATUREPL.COM / ANUP SHAH / WWF

EBOLA THREAT TO APES

Did you know Ebola infects great apes as well as humans? It's killed significant proportions of gorilla and chimp populations in central Africa. At present, we rely on natural barriers, such as rivers, to halt Ebola's spread in apes, but 'self-disseminating' vaccines are being explored. Meanwhile we're continuing to tackle bushmeat poaching, which may bring humans into contact with Ebola in apes.

ZERO POACHING SYMPOSIUM

In February, representatives from 13 Asian countries committed to decisive action to stamp out poaching at a symposium hosted by the Nepal government. At the meeting, delegates shared experiences to help improve anti-poaching practices.

STOP PRESS: EARTHQUAKE

We were saddened to hear of the tragedy in Nepal. Our thoughts are with all those affected, including the WWF teams in Kathmandu. We are providing assistance wherever possible and will bring you an update from our teams in the field in your next issue of *Action*.

CONSERVATION

New tiger reserve declared

THERE'S GOOD news for tigers from our friends at WWF-India. Last year, a new tiger reserve was designated in the Pilibhit forests in the north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh. These forests are home to around 22 to 26 tigers (estimated in 2013), as well as leopards, swamp deer, rusty spotted cats and four-horned antelope.

We've worked for decades to improve law enforcement and build community support for conservation. The Pilibhit Tiger Reserve covers an area of 727 sq km in the foothills of the Himalayas, and it's a key habitat for tigers in the transboundary Terai Arc Landscape, which connects adjoining forest reserves in Nepal and India. The new reserve will contribute to the long-term survival of the big cats, their prey and habitats.



Camera traps have shown that Pilibhit forest, in the foothills of the Himalayas, is an important corridor habitat for tigers

© WWF-INDIA/UP FOREST DEPARTMENT

Together, we did it!

Thanks to your membership, we continue to protect wildlife and wild places. Here are some of the great things supporters like you have helped to achieve

1 INDIA

You helped tigers bounce back

India's tiger population has increased significantly according to the *Status of Tigers in India 2014* report released earlier this year. Numbers have risen dramatically, from an estimated 1,411 in 2006, and 1,706 in 2010, to 2,226 in 2014. This is largely thanks to better management of tiger reserves and other protected areas - and improved protection within them. Poaching remains one of the greatest threats to wild tigers today, with their parts in high demand throughout Asia. You're helping support our work to double the number of wild tigers to at least 6,000 by 2022 – the next Chinese year of the tiger. We'll continue working with tiger countries, including Nepal, India and Russia, to protect the species' habitats and prevent poaching of these big cats and their prey.

FIND OUT MORE wwf.org.uk/tigers



TIGERS © ADITYA SINGH / GETTY; ORANG-UTAN © ANUP SHAH / GETTY

2 BORNEO

You helped protect Sabah's forests

Last year, the Sabah Forestry Department set aside more forest for protection and restoration, increasing the total protected area from 1.35m to 1.55m hectares. For years, we've been working with the forestry department to conserve Sabah's rich forests, which are home to orang-utans, clouded leopards and pygmy elephants. About 21% of Sabah's land area is now protected, and the government plans to increase this to 30% over the next five years, reconnecting areas of forest. With your help, we'll help restore Sabah's degraded forests to their former glory.

YOU CAN HELP wwf.org.uk/orangadopt



3 CHINA

You helped protect some of China's most precious forests

Last year, China halted commercial logging in its largest forest in the vast north-east province of Heilongjiang, which borders Inner Mongolia and the Russian Far East. This year, it will introduce a ban in neighbouring Jilin province, too. This will help to restore more than 430,000 sq km of forest, which is home to more species than almost any other temperate forest in the world, including highly endangered Amur leopards and tigers.

We've been working to raise awareness about the importance of these forests for these rare cats and are delighted that the wildlife living in these two provinces will now be better protected. With your help, we'll seize this opportunity to encourage more wildlife-friendly forest management, support local communities and improve and expand the protected area network for the region's big cats and their prey.



© GETTY

“Your support means we can act swiftly to help protect threatened species and habitats, and plan long-term solutions to global environmental threats. We couldn’t do it without you.” Heather Sohl, WWF-UK chief species adviser



12,000

the approximate number of turtle hatchlings that emerge each season on Lamu’s beaches



50%

The turtle nests found on Lamu’s beaches make up 50% of all turtle nests along the Kenyan coast

© RAJENDRA SUMAL / WWF-NEPAL



Our goal is to ensure that, by 2020, six viable populations of Asian rhinos exist in the wild

5 NEPAL

You helped collar a greater one-horned rhino in Nepal

Thanks to your support, a greater one-horned rhinoceros was successfully fitted with a satellite collar in Nepal last November. The young female lives in Khata Corridor, which connects Nepal’s Bardia National Park with India’s Katerniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary in the Terai Arc Landscape.

Data retrieved from her collar will help us and the Nepalese government understand how rhinos use this corridor, so community-based anti-poaching patrols can focus on protecting the most populated areas. This information will also help us to manage the habitat better so rhinos can move freely within the corridor, and reduce the potential for human-wildlife conflict.

DID YOU KNOW?

About 3,200 greater one-horned rhinos survive in the wild. Of these, 80% live in India, most of the rest in Nepal

ADOPT A RHINO wwf.org.uk/rhinoadopt

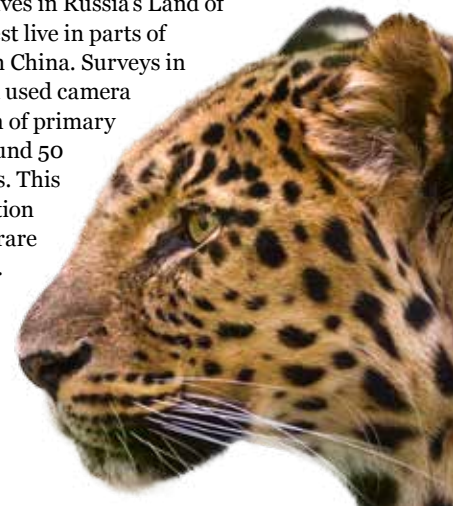
CAPTIVE AMUR LEOPARD © GETTY

6 RUSSIA

You helped Amur leopards recover

With your help, we’re making a real difference to the critically endangered Amur leopard. According to recent surveys, numbers of these big cats seem to be gradually rising. The majority of the world’s Amur leopard population lives in Russia’s Land of the Leopard National Park – the rest live in parts of Heilongjiang and Jilin provinces in China. Surveys in the Land of Leopard National Park used camera traps set in more than 3,600 sq km of primary leopard habitat, and identified around 50 adult leopards and six leopard cubs. This exciting news proves our conservation efforts are working and that these rare leopards are successfully breeding.

ADOPT AN AMUR LEOPARD
wwf.org.uk/leopardadopt



4 KENYA



You helped increase the number of nesting turtles

Our monitoring efforts have revealed that the number of adult female turtles nesting in Lamu, Kenya, increased from about 105 in 1999 to about 155 in 2013. Around 98% of these were endangered green turtles. After monitoring 34 beaches in five locations, we also found the number of turtle hatchlings emerging had increased, while predation levels had fallen. This is thanks to your support, and our conservation efforts with Kenya Wildlife Service and Lamu’s local community.

ADOPT A TURTLE wwf.org.uk/turtleadopt

TURTLE © JURGEN FREUND / WWF



Discover more about the
photographer and some of his
images at wwf.org.uk/davidlloyd



DETERMINED TO SURVIVE

This looming elephant is the protective matriarch of a family living in the Maasai Mara. When she spied the lush-looking plant behind which photographer David Lloyd had positioned his camera, she approached with steady but silent determination. “It never fails to surprise me how quietly – and quickly – such a huge animal can move,” says David. Once she had acquired her prize, she swiftly herded her family onwards.

Times are tough for African elephants so we're working to create stability for them and their habitats in 20 landscapes by 2017. We've identified the world-famous Mara-Serengeti ecosystem that straddles the border between Kenya and Tanzania in east Africa – where this image was taken – as one of these priority areas for conservation. With your help, we're also stepping up our efforts to tackle the upsurge in poaching outside protected areas. We're as determined as ever to protect these incredible animals.

HELP US PROTECT ELEPHANTS

To do more to help us protect threatened species from illegal wildlife trade, visit wwf.org.uk/iwt

Win a copy of David's new book on page 30.



Climate Witnesses

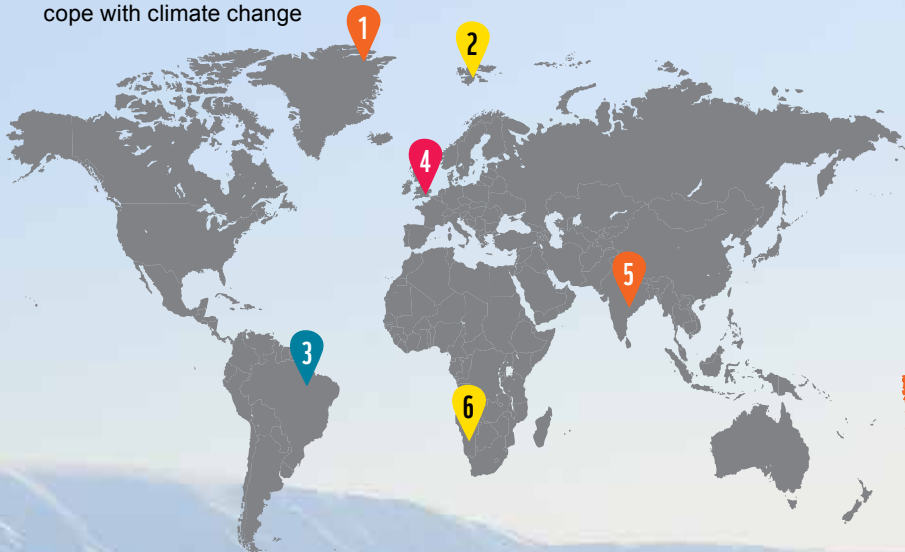
All around the world, communities and wildlife are experiencing big changes to their way of life due to climate change. Hear personal accounts from some of those already feeling the impacts of global warming and find out how we're helping them to adapt.

By **Mike Unwin**

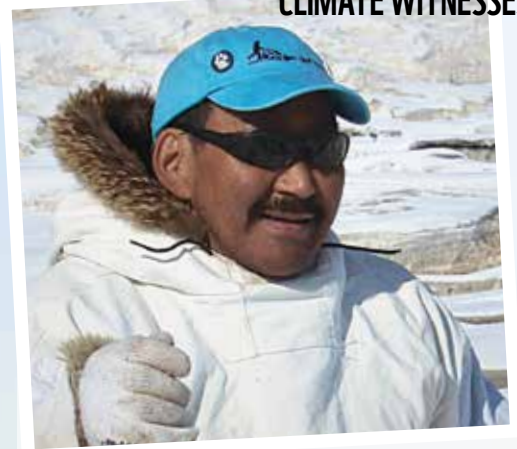


Global solutions

Your donations ensure our work around the globe helps the most vulnerable communities cope with climate change



CLIMATE WITNESSES



1

Peter's story GREENLAND

"It's getting harder to live here," says hunter Peter Avike from the village of Siorapaluk, in Greenland's far north. He explains how the winter sea ice is melting much earlier than just 10 years ago. "It's incredibly difficult to go hunting on our dog sleds. The ice isn't as thick, we can't travel as far and the seals are getting harder to find."

The Arctic is experiencing the fastest rate of warming on Earth. By 2050 scientists predict that there will be virtually no summer sea ice left. This threatens both local communities and wildlife such as polar bears and walrus. It also opens up the region to increased oil and gas exploration, shipping and the risk of overfishing, putting additional pressure on this fragile environment.

Scientists have identified a region in the high Arctic of Canada and Greenland that is projected to be the last stronghold of summer sea ice. Known as 'the last ice area', this could provide an enduring home for wildlife and local communities. We're supporting research here, including mapping polynyas – areas of persistent open water in the ice that attract an abundance of marine mammals – and tracking the movement of Arctic wildlife.

We're also working with key stakeholders to develop management measures to safeguard this vital area, and with Inuit communities to gather traditional knowledge. "We must keep track of everything that happens," says Peter. He knows his world is changing day by day, and that knowledge could hold the key to his community's future.

▶ WATCH OUR FILM

Peter and other hunters from the Inuit community tell us how climate change is affecting their traditional livelihoods: wwf.org.uk/greenlandfilm

“Priceless ecosystems in the Arctic are literally melting away before our eyes. But we should make no mistake: changes to the Arctic sea ice are both the cause and the effect of changes to the global weather patterns that we all depend on.” Emma Pinchbeck, WWF-UK head of energy and climate

2

The polar bear's story

THE ARCTIC

Spring in the Arctic. Two black noses emerge from a white hillside as polar bear cubs taste the Arctic air for the first time. Nearby, their mother scans the frozen wilderness. But this land is changing rapidly. The winter sea ice has already retreated to the horizon, leaving a gulf of dark ocean. How will she reach the seals upon whose flesh her cubs depend?

Global warming has hit the Arctic hard. Scientists predict that within one generation the summer sea ice could be

virtually gone. Female polar bears are finding it ever harder to feed and rear cubs. And as the bears remain on land in search of food, so they're increasingly coming into conflict with people.

WWF is monitoring how polar bears are adapting. With your help, we're working with partners and local communities to understand how changes in sea ice habitats may affect the distribution of bears around the Arctic. We're also developing ways to help avoid the conflicts that arise when people and bears are forced to share space. Finally, we're encouraging governments to honour their conservation commitments towards protecting polar bears and their Arctic home.

3

Celso's story
BRAZIL

"Now they've seen mine," says Celso, "everybody wants one." The proud farmer stands outside his new eco-house on the Várzea floodplains of the Brazilian Amazon. Built from sustainable local timber, it comes with eco-friendly toilets and stands high on stilts above the reach of the floodwater.

Floods are a way of life for families in the Várzea, where natural water level fluctuations may reach 10m. But climate change has been making flood cycles more erratic and extreme, with devastating consequences. Unsustainable land use has exacerbated the problem and deforestation has depleted natural resources, leaving the land vulnerable. Homes and livelihoods are under threat.



Celso and his family now live in a house on stilts. The natural rise and fall of the Amazon flooded their previous house every year

With your help, we've supported communities in the Várzea for 16 years to develop sustainable livelihoods and protect biodiversity. For example, we've planted reeds as protective buffers around properties and crops, and we've helped to

protect and monitor key species, such as the pirarucu – a large catfish prized by commercial fisheries.

Moreover, we've helped the community to come together and protect its interests. "With community cohesion people are more organised, take better decisions, are vigilant about exploitation and engage better with government," says Damian Fleming, head of our Amazon programme.

Celso's new home is part of a state-sponsored initiative to provide 4,000 such houses. His future is looking more secure. "The last time our old house flooded was 2009," he explains. "We hope it won't happen again." ▶



The village now benefits from the surrounding reedbeds, which were planted as a natural barrier

DID YOU KNOW?
2014 was the hottest year on record. Arctic sea ice shrank to the lowest winter extent ever seen

© DAMIAN FLEMING / WWF-UK

WHY DO SEA LEVELS RISE?



1. THERMAL EXPANSION

The polar ice caps help to regulate global temperature by reflecting sunlight back into space. The dark ocean absorbs sunlight and heat. When water warms up it expands, causing sea levels to rise.



2. MELTING OF GLACIERS AND POLAR ICE CAPS

As the ice recedes, the ocean absorbs more sunlight. Rising temperatures cause large ice formations to melt more than normal in summer and less snow to fall due to later winters and earlier springs. Sea levels rise.



3. ICE LOSS FROM GREENLAND & WEST ANTARCTICA

Warmer air causes the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets to melt faster. Warmer seas help to melt huge ice shelves from below. These break off, allowing the glaciers behind to advance and calve into the sea.



Charlotte's story UNITED KINGDOM

“Everybody was talking about it,” says Charlotte Hitchmough of community group Action for the River Kennet. She recalls the October day in 2011 when the Kennet stopped flowing. “People were shocked. We had to act.”

Natural chalk streams such as the Kennet are a precious habitat. A little over 200 exist worldwide, most of them in southern England. Exacerbated by drought, the uncontrolled abstraction of their waters for domestic and industrial use threatens their very existence. One dry winter – like that of 2010/11 – can prove disastrous.

The crisis had a major impact on local wildlife. “Fish took the biggest hit,” explains Charlotte. Acting in the nick of time, her band of volunteers was able to net brown trout trapped in fast-dwindling pools and transfer them downstream to where the water continued flowing.

PROTECTING RIVERS

Over the years, we’ve campaigned against the over-exploitation of Britain’s rivers, to protect them from threats including climate change-induced drought. Last year, we helped to secure a change in the law that reduced abstraction by water companies from vulnerable chalk streams. While the UK’s new Water Act doesn’t solve the problem for all rivers, Thames Water is now acting to reduce the amount of water taken from the River Kennet.

Since the drama of 2011, Charlotte’s group has continued monitoring the Kennet and seen populations of trout and other freshwater fish steadily rise. With your continued support, and the new Water Act keeping abstraction to sustainable levels, the future is looking brighter.

FIND OUT MORE

Visit wwf.org.uk/ukrivers

When the river Kennet, one of the finest chalk streams in England, ran dry in 2011, Charlotte could not ignore the plight of stranded fish



DID YOU KNOW?
Climate change increases the risk of extinction for many species when it compounds other pressures



Prolonged drought caused sections of the River Kennet to dry up, leaving fish stranded



More than 100 fish including brown trout were rescued and relocated downstream

5 Jalaluddin's story INDIA

"Either our island is sinking or the sea is rising," says schoolteacher Jalaluddin Saha of Sagar Island. "Since 1985, we have raised the embankment five times, but in 2005 it collapsed again." Rising sea levels have now forced

Jalaluddin – along with many of his community – to abandon his home on the coast. But even 1.5km inland, the problems persist, with salt water flooding and ruining his new fields.

The Sundarbans, in the Bay of Bengal, is the world's largest mangrove forest. The mangroves once protected its numerous islands, but as they're destroyed by rising sea levels and increasing siltation, the low-lying delta is left at the mercy of the ocean. "Trying to hold back rising waters is futile," observes John Barker, head of our India programmes. "Hundreds of thousands of local people now fear for their homes and livelihoods."

We've been working with local people in the Sundarbans since 2005, investigating the impacts of climate change on their lives. We helped draw



Jalaluddin and his family are not only losing land but also agricultural productivity to rising tidal waters

up the 2011 Sundarbans Delta Vision, which paves a way for engaging with government. And we've been working with the World Bank and others towards the adaptations urgently required.

For Jalaluddin and his family, however, it may be too late. "I don't think I will build another house," he explains. "But I would not be surprised if my sons and grandsons are forced to move again."

\$312bn

The amount of investment in solar and wind energy in 2014, up 16% from 2013

It's getting hotter!

 The 10 warmest years on record were in the past 12 years. The 20 warmest have all occurred since 1981

2°C

The rise in temperature that will threaten ecosystems with limited capacity to adapt

"Unless we make dramatic cuts in polluting gases, we will end up with a climate that is unrecognisable, unpredictable and damaging for everyone."

Samantha Smith, leader of WWF's global climate and energy initiative



Veerii's story NAMIBIA

"I will do this for the rest of my life," says 19-year-old Veerii Tjivinda, holding out a handful of the golden resin known as omumbiri. "Just as my mother taught me, I want to teach others."

Veerii hails from the semi-nomadic, highly marginalised Himba community of north-west Namibia's Kunene region. Her people's traditional lifestyle evolved in this arid land, and now climate change is bringing new challenges – rising temperatures, more frequent droughts and heavier rainfall.

Their livelihood, which is based primarily on livestock farming, relies heavily on natural resources. But rangelands have been degraded by poor management, such as overstocking grazing areas which leads to overgrazing – and climate change will only exacerbate these problems.


With support from the Big Lottery Fund, we're working with Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation to help the Himba people manage their rangelands and natural resources more sustainably. By developing additional income sources to rely on during difficult dry seasons, we're helping



them to be more resilient and less vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

This is why Veerii is collecting omumbiri. For centuries, the lemon-scented resin of the Commiphora tree has provided perfume for Himba women. With our support, national and regional markets are being established for 'Namibian myrrh' in perfumes, incenses and scented candles. The extra income has bought Veerii's family food, blankets and other necessities. And the benefits go beyond financial security. Veerii is proud that people around the world are using omumbiri: "The tree is helping us maintain our culture."





0.85°C

The rise in the average **global temperature** between 1880 and 2012








3.5% -
4.1%

The rate of **decrease**, per decade, in annual mean **Arctic sea ice** extent between 1979 and 2012



ADAPTING TO CHANGE

Becky Saunders, our climate change expert, explains how we're helping people and wildlife to adapt

-  We're working with local groups to help them identify how they can reduce risks and adapt in a sustainable way
-  We're helping to change policies and practices at different levels – community, landscape and national levels.
-  We're conserving biodiversity and supporting communities to improve their resilience to climate change by diversifying their incomes.
-  By creating wildlife corridors and making space for nature, we're helping wildlife and ecosystems adjust to rapid environmental change.
-  We combine scientific knowledge with traditional knowledge of local communities to help people plan for change.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Your support is already helping us tackle climate change. Here are some simple ways you can do even more to help:



- Enjoy and share this simple love poem: wwf.org.uk/lovepoem
- Join us and thousands of others on Wednesday 17 June at an event called Speak Up For the Love Of. It's a chance to tell our newly-elected MPs that we want to protect the things we love from climate change. Find out more: wwf.org.uk/speakup
- Make a noise about climate change. Help us make it a hot topic by talking to your friends and family about your concerns, and share our films and images: wwf.org.uk/talkclimate

© JONATHAN & ANGELA SCOTT / GETTY

10 THINGS TO DO...

this summer

Supporting us is not just worthwhile, it's also great fun. Whether you have a minute or a weekend, here are some of the other things you can do to help



...IN ONE MINUTE

SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR THE PLANET

2015 is an exciting year for climate action. We need you to join us at Speak Up for the Love Of on 17 June in Westminster, keep the pressure on world leaders to secure strong global action on climate change at the UN Conference in Paris in November, and ensure that our politicians stick to their commitments at home. Are you in? wwf.org.uk/speakup

© RICHARD STONEHOUSE / WWF-UK



© MYLES NEW

...IN ONE HOUR COOK AN EARTH HOUR RECIPE

Tasty, quick and kind to the planet, our delicious Earth Hour recipes are perfect to cook and share with your friends. Celebrity chefs including Ching-He Huang and Valentine Warner have rustled up some vegetarian recipes that prove eating better for the planet can also be better for you. Why not start with three easy and healthy recipes at: wwf.org.uk/recipes



© RICHARD STONEHOUSE / WWF-UK

...IN ONE AFTERNOON BE A GREEN AMBASSADOR 4 YOUTH

Do you want to inspire and motivate young people to change things for the better? Through our Green Ambassadors 4 Youth scheme you can help your youth groups to explore the links between the environment and our lifestyles, build skills and take action to make a real difference to nature. Encourage a new generation of sustainability champions and register here: wwf.org.uk/4youth



© GETTY

...IN ONE DAY HELP CLEAN YOUR LOCAL RIVER

Healthy streams and rivers are an asset to all of us, providing peace, recreation and wildlife. And with just 21% classed as being healthy ecosystems, they really need our help. So why not do your bit and join a river clean-up or conservation day in your local area? There are hundreds of community river projects that need a helping hand all over the country this summer – just wear some old clothes, wellies or tough shoes and bring bags of enthusiasm. Now you're ready for action! Learn more about volunteering opportunities on your local rivers by searching for your local group here: wwf.org.uk/rivergroups



© TRISTAN FEWINGS / WWF-UK

...IN ONE WEEKEND SUPPORT TEAM PANDA



Volunteer at Prudential RideLondon 100 on 2 August
Help us to cheer on our amazing team in the UK's biggest cycling event, as they tackle 100 leg-testing miles around closed roads in London and out into the Surrey countryside. It's a truly spectacular event for all involved.



Sign up for the Royal Parks Foundation Half Marathon on 11 October
Join us on this beautiful 13.1 mile run in central London. You'll pass London's most iconic landmarks and race through four of the eight Royal Parks. We have only a few

places available, so if you've already secured your own place for 2015, why not run as part of Team Panda?



Challenge yourself in the London Duathlon on 20 September 2015
This run-bike-run event offers athletes of all abilities the chance to race through Richmond Park on closed roads. So just select a distance to suit you – 5km, 10km or 44km – and go for it!

DOWNLOAD YOUR NEW FUNDRAISING PACK:
wwf.org.uk/guidetofundraising



...THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE



EAT FOR THE PLANET

If you want to reduce your impact on the planet and improve your health, changing the way you eat is relatively easy and something you can do every day. Our second 'LiveWell' principle is to eat a variety of foods – have a colourful plate. wwf.org.uk/livewell



MAKE DO AND MEND

We can all make small changes in our lives that make a big difference to the planet. Earth Hour Hidden Hero Jen Gale has loads of brilliant ideas on how to save money by reusing things you own already simply through re-purposing: wwf.org.uk/jen



BUY GOOD PALM OIL

Palm oil is found in products from ice cream to soap. But its unsustainable production is destroying vital orangutan habitats. To ensure you're buying certified sustainable palm oil, look for the RSPO label (above) and watch: wwf.org.uk/unseen



DOWNLOAD OUR APP

If you haven't already downloaded our award-winning app, WWF Together, don't miss your chance to get closer to the world's most amazing animals, explore our work and enjoy animal origami: wwf.org.uk/together



TRY TO WIN £5,000

Take part in our summer raffle and you'll be helping to raise funds to support our vital work. With a top prize of £5,000, it's your chance to win some spending money for the summer holidays! wwf.org.uk/summerraffle

© NATUREPL.COM / ANDY ROUSE / WWF

STOP PRESS

After the devastating earthquake in Nepal, we'd like to assure our members that our team in Chitwan, including Murray the dog, are safe. Watch out for an update in your next issue.

A TIGER'S BEST FRIEND

With your help, we're tackling poaching in Nepal head-on. As the first sniffer dogs arrive in Chitwan National Park, we find out how these canine crime-fighters have revolutionised the fight against the illegal wildlife trade

Belgian shepherds like Murray (top right) are capable of tracking down poachers as well as sniffing out clues at poaching scenes and leading enforcement agencies to vital evidence.

Met Murray, the newest recruit to Nepal's anti-poaching team. Born in Slovakia, he's been training for this job with an expert team in India since he was just four months old. Now he and his partner Sears have arrived in Nepal to join an elite squad leading the fight against wildlife crime.

Not many people in the world are qualified to do what Murray can do. Strictly speaking, no people are. Murray is a Belgian malinois, or Belgian shepherd dog. Strong, intelligent and fierce when they need to be, they're the breed used by US Special Forces. That's why Murray and Sears have been chosen as the first dogs to sniff out signs of poaching in Chitwan National Park. It's the most important centre for wildlife in Nepal, and one of the few places in the world where tigers, rhinos and elephants can all be found.

A SPECIAL PLACE

"Chitwan is one of only two places in Asia with more than 500 rhinos, so it's vital that we keep on top of poaching there," says Christy Williams, who leads WWF's work to protect Asian elephants and rhinos.

"We've seen from experience in India how effective dogs can be in tracking poachers and detecting signs of poaching. They also act as a deterrent to potential poachers."

As you know, poaching to feed the illegal wildlife trade is the biggest threat facing many of our best-loved species. Tiger parts are highly valued in traditional Chinese medicine and their skins are used for rugs. Rhino horn is in huge demand in Vietnam, where it's seen as a cure for everything from cancer to hangovers, as well as a sign of wealth. And elephants are butchered daily for their ivory.

With your help, we've been working hard to tackle poaching, but there's still much to do. The market for illicit wildlife products ►

DOG DETECTIVES

Five reasons why Murray makes such a good wildlife crime investigator



1 Smelling specialists

When we breathe in through our noses, the air goes straight to our lungs. But with dogs, about 12% of it gets diverted into a different part of the nose, entirely devoted to smelling.

2 Super-sensitive

Smells are detected and sent to the brain by tiny cells called olfactory receptors. You have about five or six million of them. Dogs have up to 300 million. You can do the maths...

3 X-ray machines

At a busy airport, customs officials don't have time to open and search through every piece of luggage that might contain illegal wildlife parts. But a well-trained sniffer dog can scan the contents in just a few quick seconds.

4 Objective witnesses

Evidence from dogs can help secure convictions when a case gets to court. While human evidence may be unreliable or tampered with, courts recognise that dogs are trustworthy and unbiased.

5 Nose over eyes

Chitwan National Park includes important grassland habitat where the grass grows taller than head height. This makes patrolling and tracking difficult if you're navigating by sight, but easier if you're following your nose...

Poaching is the most immediate threat to wild tigers. Every part – from whiskers to tail – is traded in illegal wildlife markets for traditional medicine and as a status symbol



is booming. Globally, illegal wildlife trade is estimated to be worth around US\$8bn-US\$10bn a year (excluding fish and timber products) – making it the fourth largest international criminal trade. As poaching has grown in scale and sophistication, so we've had to step up our response.

ONE STEP AHEAD

“We have to find ways to stay ahead of the poachers, or we will lose animals,” says Christy. You're helping us to fund a number of anti-poaching innovations in Nepal and elsewhere to stay ahead of the poachers. These include smartphone software that rangers can use on patrol to monitor wildlife and poaching activity, and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). In Chitwan National Park, these UAVs keep a floating eye on remote and inaccessible areas.

Sniffer dogs might sound less high-tech, but in fact their noses are an incredibly sophisticated piece of kit, capable of identifying scents that the low-grade human nose can't detect. Increasingly, they're being

“We've seen from experience in India how effective dogs can be in tracking poachers and detecting signs of poaching,” says WWF's Christy Williams

used in checkpoints, airports and national parks to detect illegal wildlife products, find signs of poaching and track down the perpetrators. When poachers are caught, one of the biggest obstacles to a successful prosecution is gathering sufficient evidence, as their guns and traps are often hidden deep in the forest. This is where sniffer dogs come in. With the right training, they can help to find guns and traps, track poachers and identify their routes, and locate animal parts, even if they're buried.

The wildlife trade monitoring network TRAFFIC (a collaboration between WWF and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature) has already trained 12 sniffer dogs in India, and plans to train another 14 this year. So far, they've led to

more than 80 successful seizures of wildlife contraband, as well as finding hauls of guns, snares and other poaching equipment, and even tracking poachers back to their houses.

Sandwiched between China and India, on a key transit route for illegal wildlife products, Nepal is on the frontline in the fight against poaching. And at the moment, it's making real progress here. Twice in the past four years, the country has celebrated a 'zero poaching' year, where no tigers, rhinos or elephants have been lost to poachers. The last known case of tiger poaching in Nepal was in May 2011. And the arrest of one of the country's most notorious rhino poachers earlier this year shows that efforts to stamp out this terrible trade can be successful.

It's encouraging news, but there can be



Murray and Sears are valuable additions to the anti-poaching team in Nepal



Murray joins the anti-poaching team in Chitwan on regular patrols in search of snares

A GOOD PEDIGREE

In addition to being the first sniffer dogs to join our anti-poaching team in Chitwan National Park, canine crime fighters Murray and Sears are also named after a very famous couple. WWF ambassador Andy Murray has been working with us to help raise crucial funds for our sniffer dog programme in Nepal, to help tackle poaching and illegal wildlife trade in the region. So we've named our new recruits Murray and Sears, after the tennis ace and his new wife Kim Sears. It's the start of a beautiful relationship.

Read more about Andy's involvement on page 6.



no complacency. With a little more than 500 rhinos and around 200 tigers in the country, every life counts. And in May 2014, a critically endangered greater one-horned rhino was shot by poachers in the buffer zone around Chitwan National Park.

Sanjaya Deuja, a lieutenant colonel in the Nepalese army, recalls hearing the shot close by, but in the dense vegetation he couldn't see where it had come from. He wished he had a dog with him. The next morning he found an axe and a stick, obviously left by the poachers. A dog could have used the scent on these to track the perpetrators. Sanjaya could have sealed the area with checkpoints and caught them. That was when he decided that Chitwan needed its own sniffer dogs on site.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

While the illegal wildlife trade is increasingly a sophisticated operation run by professional criminal networks, the actual poaching is often carried out by local people in desperate need of money. Together

with the anti-poaching teams in Nepal, we've made good progress in building relationships with communities and gathering intelligence on poaching, but people are often too afraid to share information about the perpetrators. Sanjaya believes that having the dogs will encourage people to come forward – there's less likelihood of finger-pointing or reprisals, since the dogs might have tracked down the poachers anyway.

Murray and Sears are now based near the park headquarters, along with their handlers. As well as going on patrol, the dogs will continue their training every day. Just as important as learning to detect and track different smells is what the dogs do when they pick up a scent: an amateur would be likely to bark and get overexcited, but professional sniffer dogs might sit down quietly so as not to give away their location.

"If the dogs are successful in these conditions, we aim to introduce dog squads into other national parks in Nepal," says Christy. "We hope they can help the country achieve many more years of zero poaching." ■

HOW YOU CAN HELP

An extra gift today will make a real difference to our sniffer dog team and the fight against illegal wildlife trade.

£12 pays for the food and care for one sniffer dog for one day (food, veterinary care and medicines)

£95 pays for the maintenance and upkeep of the dog facility in Chitwan National Park for one week

£900 pays for a new sniffer dog to join the anti-poaching team

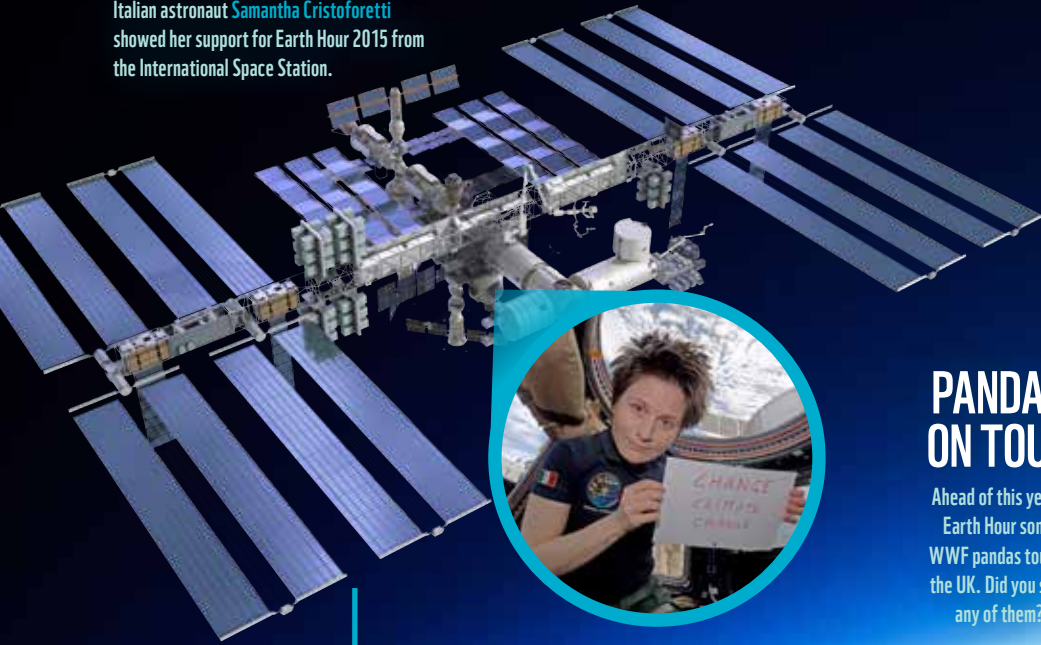
To support our vital work to keep Nepal's wildlife safe, visit www.org.uk/dogs



PEOPLE POWER

SUPPORT FROM SPACE

Italian astronaut **Samantha Cristoforetti** showed her support for Earth Hour 2015 from the International Space Station.



PLANET-FRIENDLY FOOD

In the run-up to this year's Earth Hour, we focused on the importance of sustainable food. We had support from some of UK's top chefs including Tom Aikens, Ching-He Huang, Ken Hom and Valentine Warner. wwf.org.uk/ehrecipes



SAMANTHA CRISTOFORETTI © EARTH HOUR; FOOD © MUI SLATER

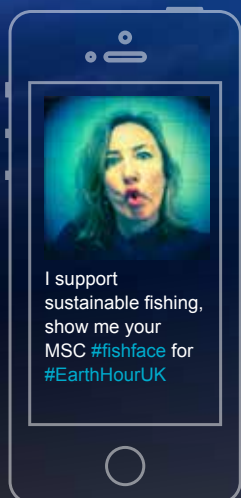
PANDAS ON TOUR

Ahead of this year's Earth Hour some WWF pandas toured the UK. Did you spot any of them?

BEFORE THE HOUR

#FISHFACE

The world's oceans need our support. Lots of you pulled your best trout pouts to show your love for healthy oceans and sustainable fishing.



HIGH-PROFILE HELP

UN Secretary-General **Ban Ki-Moon** and WWF-UK's President **HRH The Prince of Wales** were among those who showed their support for Earth Hour before lights out.



"Earth Hour gives people everywhere a chance to show their commitment to climate action, together."

Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary-General, United Nations



PEDAL POWER

Some of our pandas and lots of lovely volunteers helped power some of our equipment for the day through cycle power, outside our Living Planet Centre.

300

Over 300 WWF ambassadors and influencers around the world including WWF Global Ambassadors **Jared Leto** (pictured) and **Andy Murray** supported Earth Hour.



Were you one of the millions who took part in Earth Hour on Saturday 28 March? It was inspiring to see how many people care about the future of our planet. Thank you for standing beside us – here are your highlights!

UK HIGHLIGHTS



SCOTTISH SUPPORT

Pipe Major Mark Sutherland from the Royal Borough of Stirling pipe band played in front of the Falkirk Kelpies as they went dark for Earth Hour.

1,000 WISHES

In the run-up to Earth Hour, over 1,000 people in Wales chose a 'wish' for thriving forests, healthy seas or a safe climate and shared their #welshwish with their friends at wwf.org.uk/welshwish

4,800 SCHOOLS

enjoyed Earth Hour activities. Riverston School kicked Earth Hour off with a flash mob in Blackheath, Our Lady of Lincoln RC School snuggled down for an Earth Hour pyjama party, and Coastlands Primary made some brilliant bunting for June's climate meeting.

27 RESTAURANTS

Wahaca, in Soho, was just one of 27 Sustainable Restaurant Association member restaurants around the UK that hosted candlelit dinners during Earth Hour.

100 SUPPORTERS

enjoyed music by Dublin acoustic duo Hudson Taylor at a special concert in partnership with Eagle FM at our Living Planet Centre.

MIDNIGHT WALK

As the UK hour came to an end, a host of walkers converged next to the Brighton Wheel to conclude the seventh annual Brighton and Hove Torchwalk.

172 COUNTRIES

Hundreds of millions of people in a record-breaking 172 countries and territories turned off their lights for an hour. Millions of people, thousands of schools and hundreds of businesses and organisations came together to show they care about the future of our brilliant planet.

1,400

Edinburgh Castle, the Senedd in Wales, Blackpool Tower, and the Shard, The Ritz Hotel, Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament in London joined more than 1,400 landmarks worldwide in switching off their lights for Earth Hour. The Sydney Opera House, the Kremlin in Moscow, Brooklyn Bridge in the US, the Acropolis in Athens and Sugar Loaf Mountain in Brazil also went dark.

ENJOY THE CELEBRATIONS

We hope you're as inspired as us by images from the global celebrations. See more at wwf.org.uk/highlights



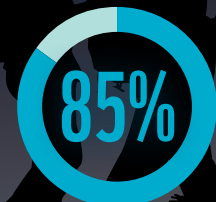
© EARTH HOUR SRI LANKA

CARNIVAL TIME 24

In Malaysia, citizens attended the first-ever Earth Hour carnival in Petaling Jaya and showed their support for a city council declaration to reduce carbon emissions.

People in 24 time zones took part in Earth Hour, which started in the Pacific island of Samoa and in Antarctica, made its way to the UK and ended in Tahiti.

LET'S GO BEYOND THE HOUR



Last year, 85% of the people who took part in Earth Hour felt inspired to make further positive changes to protect the planet. Not just for one hour, but every day. Go beyond the hour at wwf.org.uk/beyond

A GLOBAL EVENT

OVER TO YOU!



WEAR IT WILD AND MAIN MARATHON © TRISTYAN FEMINGS / WWF-UK. INSET MARATHON © ABI NICHOL / WWF-UK

We know you've done some really great stuff for us since the last issue of *Action*, so why not tell us about it? These are *your* pages – let's start celebrating you!

JOIN THE HERD!

**We've got
1 million
followers on
social media!**

1,000,000

We now have over 1 million followers across all our UK social media channels! Our social media supporters have contributed almost 10,000 signatures to our forest campaign; they share our content far and wide (one climate change tweet reached 2.8 million people); and over the last financial year they donated more than £41,000. Are you one of them? Follow us on **WWF-UK Facebook, Earth Hour Facebook, Big Cats Facebook, WWF-UK Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram.**



RUN LIKE AN OSTRICH!
Be a long distance champion

STAR LETTER

Double marathon challenge

As an ex-Royal Engineer in need of a new challenge, I decided to run both the Brighton and London marathons for WWF. As they were only two weeks apart, and I'd never tackled a marathon before, I knew it would be tough.

I developed shin splints, which meant I couldn't train properly prior to the Brighton event. During the race itself I suffered cramps and faced a tough mental battle, worse than any in the army! What an experience. The London marathon crowds were simply amazing, and your team

was so supportive. So far, I've raised over £1,000. If you're not sure about signing up, just do it. You won't regret it.

Darren Murdoch, Wokingham

WIN A RUCKSACK

The star letter wins a Sativa foldable rucksack from the WWF shop, made of environmentally-friendly hemp and organic cotton, and worth £37.99.

For more details visit:

wwf.org.uk/shop



Three great things you've been doing for WWF...

1 PULLING #FISHFACES

The world's oceans need our support. Lots of you pulled your best trout pouts to show your love for healthy oceans and sustainable fishing. We love this one by Michel Kaiser.



2 PLAYING CHESS

You celebrated Earth Hour in so many imaginative ways. Our young Hidden Hero Jessica marked the event by putting up a tent in her front room and playing chess by candlelight.



3 SAYING THANK YOU

"Thanks for your research to help protect polar bears from the effects of climate change. I would be devastated if we allowed them to become extinct." Emma Cameron



BE MORE ELEPHANT!
Don't forget us in your will

Leave a legacy

I've been a supporter of WWF since about 1984. I first got involved with the charity because of my love for animals. Then I became interested in the environment too. I love the fact that you work for the environment, animals and people – as well as on wider environmental issues such as climate change.



I have no immediate family and it's important to me to support WWF in my will. I feel like I've left a little something that will continue to do some good after I've gone. It seems as though mankind is always taking from the earth – I want to give something back. I would encourage everyone to leave WWF a gift in their will – and leave a lasting legacy.
Valerie Stupple, Location

If you'd like to know more about how legacies can help our vital work, visit: wwf.org.uk/gifts

ROAR LIKE A LION!
Let people know you care

Writing for the planet

I grew up in north Surrey, surrounded by heaths and woods, but also close to major roads, such as the A30 and M3, and Heathrow airport. It was impossible, in these circumstances, not to be aware of our impact on the environment.

My parents have always been environmentalists – my father helps run a local conservation group and my mother volunteers for the British Trust for Ornithology. They made sure that, as children, we connected with the natural world. I'm proud that they, along with my sister, are generous donors to WWF.

As for me, in 2005 I was able to join WWF in action as a participant in a conservation-themed TV series, *Planet*

Action. I became determined to connect my environmental concerns with my work as a writer. *Beacons: Stories for our not so distant future* is a collection of original short stories written by a stellar cast of UK authors, responding to our ecological crisis. The book is published by Oneworld, with royalties donated to The Climate Coalition – a group of organisations, including WWF, that are dedicated to action on climate change.
Gregory Norminton, Sheffield



BE AN EVERYDAY ACTION HERO



© KAREN SUTTON / WWF-UK

Hero: Louise Bentata
Super power: Running the Virgin Money London Marathon 2014 for Team Panda and raising a whopping £4,382 to fund our vital work.
Motivation: "I've been a member for five years. I was inspired by my late grandfather who supported WWF for more than 30 years. I'd never even run a half-marathon before, so my family and friends thought I was crazy to sign up for the London marathon. After a three-hour training run I just collapsed on the floor! The marathon was tough, but it was a great day. I'm glad I did it for WWF-UK."

SHARE THE BUZZ!
Your best bits from social media



@wwf_uk
@DeborahMeaden: Making a film with Ridley Scott's **@rsafilms** and **@wwf_uk** to **#showthelove**

not believe I could achieve this. I am so thankful for the work WWF does around the world, and pleased to have been able to contribute."
Phil Perring

(fortheloveof.org.uk)
"For the love of **TIGERS**: these beautiful creatures are suffering greatly due to climate change. We must do everything we can to save the few wild tigers we have left on this Earth!"
Arline Lawrie

"So great to actually hear some good news wildlife stories. Such stories are few and far between; we need more!" **Ian Gray**

@SteampunkJon: My **@surreyhalf** running kit from **@wwf_uk** arrived! Not long to go now. **#TeamPanda**

(wwf.org.uk/blog) Photographer Ashley Cooper shares his most memorable moments documenting the impacts of climate change.
wwf.org.uk/ashleysblog

(/WWF) "Thanks so much for the opportunity to run the London Marathon. I honestly did

YouTube Watch our camera-trap video of an Amur tiger family in inland China: wwf.org.uk/amurtigerfamily
#DoubleTigers



DID YOU WEAR IT WILD?
Why not email us your pics and tell us what you've done for WWF:
editor@wwf.org.uk



JOIN THE CHORUS AND TELL US YOUR NEWS

We'd really love to hear from you, so please email your letters and photos to editor@wwf.org.uk Because space is tight, please keep your letters to 150 words. Though we read every one, we cannot acknowledge them and must reserve the right to edit them for publication.



© ROSS PAXTON

WIN! A FAMILY DAY OUT TO AN URBAN WILDLIFE HAVEN

We've got three family day tickets to WWT London Wetland Centre up for grabs

We hope you enjoyed your last issue of *Action!* In it, you read about some of the incredible wildlife that thrives in the UK's healthy waterways. You also discovered what makes England's chalk streams and wetlands so important, and learned about the work you're supporting to help protect them.

Thanks to our friends at Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, we've got an opportunity for you to spot some water-loving

wildlife first-hand this year. You'll be able to explore their wonderful London Wetland Centre and look for wildlife including otters, dragonflies, marsh frogs and grebes. Whether you visit on a scorching summer's day or a wild autumn afternoon, you're sure to be inspired.

We've got three family day passes to give away. Just follow the instructions (*below right*) and mark your entry 'Wetland Comp'.



'WILD FRIENDS'

Live up any outfit with these charming and naturally beautiful brooches

These endearing 'Wild Friends' fairtrade animal brooches have been lovingly handmade by traditional artisans from the tagua nut, which is valued for its natural beauty, hardness and durability.

Each one is hand carved by the Yurac Muyo project in Ecuador, which consists of Olga and her family. They're part of a nationwide group of World Fair Trade Organization producers.

They slice the tagua nut, colour it using azo-free dyes, then delicately engrave the surface to reveal the natural colour of the nut beneath.

You can choose from an elephant (*above*), dolphin, tiger, polar bear or one of two species of penguin – Humboldt or Magellanic. Each brooch is £10 and makes a perfect gift.

WIN! AS LONG AS THERE ARE ANIMALS BOOK

We've got three copies of David Lloyd's breathtaking photo book *As Long As There Are Animals* to give away



For lovers of African mammals and fine art, this heartbreakingly beautiful book by award-winning photographer David Lloyd is a must. Not merely a compilation of animal photos, it is, in David's own words: "a collection of individuals."

Set against the natural grandeur of the African landscape, David has captured the essence of his subjects, the details of physical form, expression and personality that make every animal unique – from the twist of a trunk to the affection of a brother. Each regal portrait is filled with an empathy usually the preserve of human portraiture. In wide panoramas and intimate close-ups, this book portrays a vanishing Africa and reminds us that, one day, we might discover how fragile life here is. Find out more at: wwf.org.uk/davidlloyd

We have three copies of *As Long As There Are Animals* to give away. Just follow the instructions (*right*) and mark your entry 'Africa Comp'.

WHY YOU SHOULD BUY FROM THE WWF SHOP

For eco-excelling gifts that are original and organic, fun and forest friendly, look no further than our shop. Every purchase you make will help to support our vital work around the world. Help us to help wildlife by visiting the shop now:

WWF.ORG.UK/SHOP

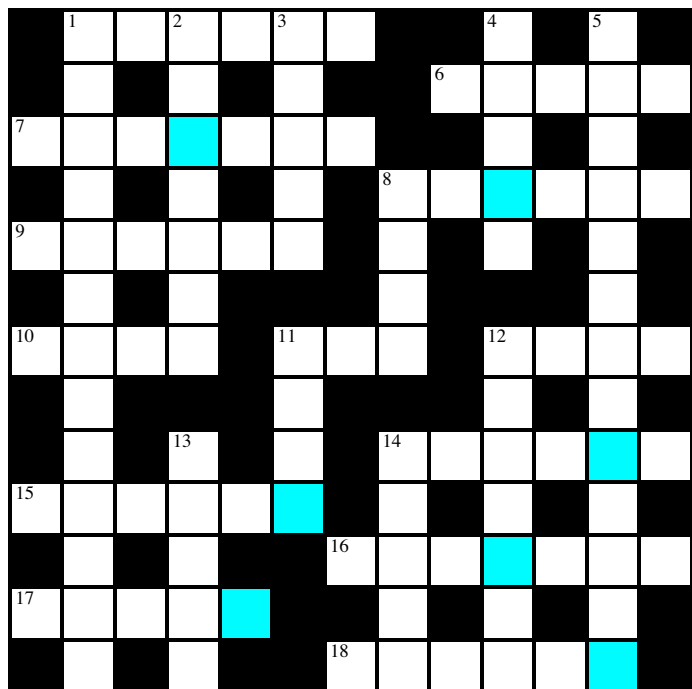
HOW TO ENTER OUR GIVEAWAYS

To enter, please send your name, address and phone number on a postcard clearly addressed to the competition you wish to enter – eg Wetland Comp or Africa Comp – to *Action Mag*, WWF-UK, Living Planet Centre, Rufford House, Brewery Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 4LL.

Only one competition per entry please. Or send an email with your chosen competition in the subject line to competition@wwf.org.uk. The closing date for the competitions is: 24 July 2015. For full competition terms and conditions, visit wwf.org.uk/compterm

CROSSWORD

Solve our climate-themed crossword and be in with a chance to win one of two beautiful beehive candles, worth £10, from our shop



WWF Action Crossword 30: Summer 2015 issue. Compiled by Aleric Linden.

After solving the crossword, take each letter from the shaded squares (from left to right and top to bottom) to spell out the prize word. To be in with a chance to win, just send a postcard with the prize word to the address on page 30 or email it to competition@wwf.org.uk The closing date is 17 July 2015.

Clues across

- 1 _ dioxide, greenhouse gas (6)
- 6 The Democratic Republic of the Congo's former name (5)
- 7 The endangered dhole is also known as the Asiatic what? (4,3)
- 8 Vegetable oils such as palm oil are turned into a bio-substitute for this commonly-used fuel (6)
- 9 Widespread food shortage (6)
- 10 What gets trapped in the atmosphere thus causing the greenhouse effect (4)
- 11 Landfill site or rubbish dump (3)
- 12 It describes many Third World countries in economic terms (4)
- 14 Endangered humphhead fish species (6)
- 15 The second-longest river in Europe (6)
- 16 Proposed tidal power project across the Severn Estuary (7)
- 17 Chinese _ , bird species classified as vulnerable (5)
- 18 Rising sea _ , one of the consequences of global warming (6)

Clues down

- 1 A more scientifically correct term for what is often referred to as global warming (7,6)
- 2 The IUCN's database of threatened species (3,4)
- 3 This gas is the main component of smog (5)
- 4 _ butt, rain collector (5)
- 5 Methane or water vapour, for example (10,3)
- 8 _ sea, part of the ocean far below the surface (4)
- 11 The monkey puzzle is a species of what? (4)
- 12 North American grassland (7)
- 13 Public transport vehicles used by many environmentally-minded travellers and commuters (5)
- 14 Toothed or baleen sea creature (5)

FEBRUARY 2015 ANSWERS: Prize word: **CLOUD**. **Across** 6. Certification 7. Namibia 8. Waste 9. Peter 10. Orca 13. Soil 14. Solar 16. Cobra 17. Plateau 18. Carbon dioxide
Down 1. Primate 2. Timber 3. Rica 4. Strata 5. Costa 6. Canopy 10. Oil 11. Bluefin 12. Grouse 13. Shrubs 14. Season 15. Coral 17. Pods

Notes from the field "Look for nests, not orang-utans"



© GETTY



Last year, I ventured deep into the heart of Sabah's forests, in north Borneo, to the Maliau Basin. Here, accompanied by the WWF-Malaysia patrol team, I walked through the dripping rainforest in search of the red ape – the orang-utan. Our prospects of success were not good. A short tropical downpour meant these sensible apes would no doubt wait for things to dry off a bit before leaving their nests.

Every night, and sometimes during the day, orang-utans make nests high in the canopy to sleep in. As dusk settles, they sit on a bough and pull branches and twigs towards them, squashing the leafy pile until they have a compact platform on which to sleep.

When surveying orang-utans, especially in rainy weather, it's often easier to look for nests than for these elusive animals themselves. But even that's not as simple as it sounds. Once, we thought we'd spotted a nest. But, after much scrutiny and discussion we judged it to be a profusion of orchids, epiphytes and creepers on a tree bough.

A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

We continued slipping and sliding down a narrow track, disturbing a mouse deer, and chanced upon a pile of durian seeds sending green shoots towards a sunlight-filled gap in the canopy. Their thick, spiky fruit cases are unmistakable, as is their pungent smell and extraordinary flavour, which appeals to both humans and orang-utans.

Excitedly, we searched the area for signs of the great apes. Orang-utans are known to congregate in durian trees when they're fruiting, but the season was obviously well past; the rotting fruit and germinating seeds a sign that orang-utans had missed their chance to devour the delicious pulpy flesh. Disappointed, we were forced to conclude there just weren't that many orang-utans living in the area. But, should they turn up, at least our patrol teams would know where to check first.

Glyn Davies

Glyn Davies executive director, global programmes

HOW YOU CAN HELP

You can do even more to help us protect orang-utans by adopting an orang-utan: wwf.org.uk/orangadopt

NEW HOPE FOR WILD TIGERS

SNIFFER DOGS HAVE JOINED THE TIGER PROTECTION TEAM.

WITH YOUR HELP, THEY CAN SNIFF OUT DEADLY SNARES AND HELP TO CATCH MORE POACHERS.

WWF.ORG.UK/DOGS



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COUNTING RHINOS + NEPAL UPDATE + HELPING CROCODILES



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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